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A citizen proposed ballot issue can only appear on the 2016 general election ballot once the proposed language has fulfilled three requirements. First, the language must be submitted to Montana's Legislative Services Division. Second, the Montana Attorney General must conduct a legal review. Finally, after the review process is complete, and the sponsor has been notified by the Secretary of State of the approval or rejection of the ballot issue, the sponsor must collect sufficient verified signatures from qualified voters in Montana. To propose a ballot issue, see detailed information at http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Ballot_Issues

Initiative or referendum for the ballot - Signatures must be obtained from 5 percent of the total number of qualified voters in Montana (based on the number of votes cast for the office of governor in the last general election), including 5 percent of the voters in each of 34 legislative house districts

Constitutional amendment by initiative - Signatures must be obtained from 10 percent of the total number of qualified voters in Montana (based on the number of votes cast for the office of governor in the last general election), including 10 percent of the voters in each of 40 legislative house districts.

If you observe and have concerns about questionable signature gathering, you may file a complaint with the Secretary of State, who will forward each complaint to the appropriate county official. See signature gathering information at http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Ballot Issues/index.asp

The 2016 Voter Information Pamphlet (VIP) will be available in the fall of 2016.

Please Note: Ballot issue numbers listed below are assigned by the order in which they were received at the Office of the Montana Secretary of State. They do not reflect a ranking or how the initiative would be numbered if it were placed on the ballot.

The following are citizen proposals for statewide ballot initiatives for the November 8, 2016, general election ballot that have been submitted to the Secretary of State.

All Submitted Ballot Issues

Ballot Issue #1

Subject: Require holding special elections to fill vacancies for the office of United States

Senator

Contact Person: Jim Brown Sponsor: Jim Brown Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: July 8, 2014

Status: Reviewed by Legislative Services.

Next Step: Sponsor has the opportunity to respond to Legislative Services

Ballot Issue #2

Subject: Allow a teacher with a concealed weapons permit to carry a concealed handgun on

school grounds.

Contact Person: Chet Billi Sponsor: Chet Billi Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: June 2, 2015

Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #3

Subject: Allow a permanent member of school faculty with a concealed weapons permit to carry a concealed handgun on school grounds if the permit holder is the legal possessor of the

Contact Person: Chet Billi Sponsor: Chet Billi Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: June 5, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #4

Subject: Restrict the use of traps and snares for animals on any public lands within Montana

Contact Person: Brian Miller Sponsor: Timothy Provow Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: June 15, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #5

Subject: Allow any school employee, with a valid permit, to possess and carry a concealed

handgun in a school. Contact Person: Chet Billi Sponsor: Chet Billi Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: June 16, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #6 |-176

Subject: Require that drugs that are illegal under federal law are illegal under Montana law.

Contact Person: Steve Zabawa Sponsor: Steve Zabawa Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: June 17, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 5, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #7

Subject: Permit individuals twenty-one years of age or older to consume or possess limited

amounts of marijuana.

Contact Person: Anthony Varriano Sponsor: Anthony Varriano Type: Constitutional initiative Received by SOS: July 6, 2015

Status: Reviewed by Legislative Services

Next Step: Sponsor has the opportunity to respond to Legislative Services

Ballot Issue #8

Subject: Remove certain limits on medical marijuana.

Contact Person: Mort Reid Sponsor: Mort Reid Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: July 7, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor. Ballot Issue #9 I-175

Subject: Allow any school employee, with a valid permit, to possess and carry a concealed

handgun in a school. Contact Person: Chet Billi Sponsor: Chet Billi Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: July 8, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of August 28, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #10 CI-115

Subject: Permit adults to purchase, consume, or possess marijuana

Contact Person: Anthony Varriano Sponsor: Anthony Varriano Type: Constitutional initiative Received by SOS: August 11, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 5, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #11

Subject: Mitigate the effects of global warming by reducing the amount of CO2 released when

generating electricity

Contact Person: John Soderberg Sponsor: John Soderberg Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: August 19, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #12 CI-116

Subject: Ensure that crime victims' rights and interests are respected and protected by law.

Contact Person: Charles Denowh Sponsor: Charles Denowh Type: Constitutional initiative Received by SOS: August 19, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of November 10, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #13 |-177

Subject: Restrict the use of traps and snares for animals on any public lands within Montana

Contact Person: Brian Miller Sponsor: Timothy Provow Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: August 20, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 6, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices

Ballot Issue #14 1-178

Subject: Legalize recreational sales of marijuana to adults twenty-one years of age and older

Contact Person: Anthony Varriano Sponsor: Anthony Varriano Type: Statutory initiative Received by SOS: October 8, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of December 7, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #15

Subject: License EMTs to provide basic health care for US veterans living in Montana

Contact Person: Ed Lesofski Sponsor: Ed Lesofski Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: October 26, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #16 |-179

Subject: License community veteran EMTs to provide expanded medical care for individuals,

including but not limited to veterans.

Contact Person: Ed Lesofski

Sponsor: Ed Lesofski
Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: October 26, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of December 29,

2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #17

Subject: Require investor-owned utilities to supply incrementally higher percentages of their

electricity from renewable energy sources.

Contact Person: Russ Doty Sponsor: John Soderberg Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: November 16, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #18

Subject: Establish a displaced fossil-fuel workers program and a fossil-fuel pensioner program.

Contact Person: Russ Doty Sponsor: John Soderberg Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: November 16, 2015

Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #19 |-180

Subject: Require investor-owned utilities to supply incrementally higher percentages of their electricity from renewable energy sources, and establish a displaced fossil-fuel workers program

and a fossil-fuel pensioner program.

Contact Person: Russ Doty Sponsor: John Soderberg Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: November 16, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of January 20, 2016.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Ballot Issue #20

Subject: Change certain limits on medical marijuana.

Contact Person: Mort Reid Sponsor: Mort Reid Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: November 23, 2015 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #21

Subject: Remove certain limits on medical marijuana.

Contact Person: Mort Reid Sponsor: Mort Reid Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: January 5, 2016 Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor.

Ballot Issue #22

Subject: Change certain limits on medical marijuana.

Contact Person: Mort Reid Sponsor: Mort Reid Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: January 28, 2016

Status: Review by Legislative Services.

Next Step: Sponsor will have the opportunity to respond to Legislative Services.

Ballot Issue #23

Subject: Promote research into developing therapies and cures for brain diseases and injuries.

Contact Person: Randy Gray

Sponsor: Montanans for Research and Cures

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: February 2, 2016

Status: Review by Legislative Services.

Next Step: Sponsor will have the opportunity to respond to Legislative Services.

Qualified for Ballot

Approved for Signature Gathering

Legal Sufficiency Review by Attorney General

Waiting for Sponsor Response

Review by Legislative Services

Withdrawn

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Panoramas by Craig Hergert